

SCENE I

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GEORGIAN SSR EXPLOITS COAL DEPOSITS EFFICIENTLY

SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTES DISCOVER USES FOR AKHALTSIKHE COAL -- Tbilisi, Zarya
Vostoka, 4 Oct 50

Since Tkibuli and Tkvarcheli coking coals are mainly earmarked for the metallurgical industry in Georgia they cannot be counted in the republic's general fuel supply.

Georgia's third coal deposit, a lignite deposit located in Akhaltsikhe, however, has a high ash content, is difficult to transport, does not withstand long storage, and easily crumbles into dust. Scientific research institutes and industrial enterprises have been asked to find a practical and efficient method of utilizing Akhaltsikhe coal, and good results were obtained by the Georgian Institute of Mineral Raw Materials and the Institute of Power Engineering of the Academy of Sciences Georgian SSR.

It was established, in the first place, that Akhaltsikhe coal actually has a considerably lower ash content than had been estimated. The high ash content is caused by mechanical mineral admixtures and with good organization of work in the mines it will be possible to obtain coal containing less ash. In addition, it was established that the quality of the coal can be improved by cleaning it, that is, either by washing or sorting.

The Georgian Institute of Mineral Raw Materials concerned itself mainly with briquetting Akhaltsikhe coal under laboratory and industrial conditions. These briquettes are suitable as a fuel for industrial and civilian consumption.

The Institute of Power Engineering attempted to find a way to utilize Akhaltsikhe coal directly without resorting to the comparatively expensive method of briquetting. Experiments showed that excellent results are obtained if a slight alteration is made in existing fireboxes.

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The Institute of Power Engineering also sought an efficient way to burn Akhaltsikhe coal in large boiler installations, and burning the coal in pulverized state in so-called shaft-mill furnaces was recommended. Experiments carried out in the autumn of 1948 in the textile combine in Strunino, near Moscow, gave very favorable results. They proved that Akhaltsikhe coal can be used as energy fuel also in large boiler installations. As a result it became possible to plan the large boiler installations of the Bori and Leninskakan textile combines, Tbilisi Worsted-Cloth Factory, and others for use of Akhaltsikhe coal.

Valuable work has also been carried on by V. B. Melauri, director of the thermotechnics section of the Institute of Power Engineering, Academy of Sciences Georgian SSR, in proving that Akhaltsikhe coal can also be used in heat and power plants.

Another problem for the near future is the gasification of Akhaltsikhe coal.

MINE IMENI LENIN HAS OUTSTANDING SECTION IN GEORGIA -- Moscow, Ugol', No 7, Jul 50

The Tkibuli coal deposit presents great difficulties with regard to working thick seams and many attempts have been made to overcome this obstacle.

Section No 1 of the Mine imeni Lenin of the Tkibuli Trust of the Gruzugol' Combine deserves particular credit for its accomplishments. This mine is working four very thick, dipping seams, divided into layers. At the beginning of 1950 the section started to deliver coal and in the first month of operations fulfilled the plan 118 percent. The section fulfilled the plan for the first quarter 126.1 percent for coal output and 142.2 percent for labor productivity, and was awarded the title of "Best Coal-Mining Section of Georgia" plus a first prize.

Work has been reorganized at Section No 1. In distinction from other sections and mines, each mine face in Section No 1 is assigned to a particular brigade. This has considerably increased the responsibility of the miners for the proper exploitation of the mine face and for its condition. Each multipurpose brigade in the section consists of 15 persons.

Section No 1 is not troubled by a labor turnover. Many apply for work here since workers receive higher pay in this section than in any other sections of the Mine imeni Lenin.

Work processes in the section are mechanized and scraper conveyers operate in intermediate drifts. -- G. B. Bagdasarov

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